

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL



Saul Shapiro
87-268

July 23, 1996

FCC MAIL ROOM
JUL 29 1996
RECEIVED

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The FCC has--or will soon have--before it two extremely important items critical to the deployment of advanced television service: the ATV broadcast transmission standard and channel allocation plan.

ATV Standard: Late last year the commission's Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS) unanimously recommended that the FCC adopt the Grand Alliance system. The cable and computer industries had representation on ACATS, and they did not oppose that recommendation.

Now, however, both industries have done an abrupt about-face and argue the standard should not be adopted. They allege that to do so would "freeze" technological development. In fact, all that would be frozen is the commencement of digital ATV service by America's free, over-the-air broadcasters. Without a standard, stations will not invest the \$8-10 million necessary because they cannot be confident all other stations will use the same system and that all new TV sets will be able to receive their signal in the manner it would be transmitted. Manufacturers will not, therefore, develop the transmission equipment necessary, and consumers will not invest billions of dollars in new receivers when there is no ATV service to receive on their new sets.

Please, adopt the Grand Alliance system as the standard and let us all begin to move forward on an accelerated basis.

Channel Allocations: Providing each broadcaster with an ATV transition channel, which comes close to replicating its existing signal and yet does not cause unacceptable interference is a nearly impossible task when using the entire block of spectrum set aside for broadcast television. Attempting to shoehorn virtually all the new channel assignments between channels 7 and 51 will result in substantially smaller ATV coverage areas and substantially increase interference for traditional analog service. This will both harm consumers receiving only analog TV, while simultaneously lessening the demand for new digital TV sets because fewer people will be able to receive the new service. Simply put, it's a lose-lose situation.

We strongly urge the commission to reject this approach and to adopt instead an allocation plan utilizing the full TV spectrum band width.

Thank you for your consideration, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott Sanders".

Scott Sanders
General Manager

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FCC MAIL ROOM

JUL 29 1996

RECEIVED

July 24, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman,

The FCC has or will soon have before it two extremely important items critical to the deployment of advanced television service: the ATV broadcast transmission standard and channel allocation plan.

ATV STANDARD: Late last year the commissioner's Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS) unanimously recommended the FCC adopt the Grand Alliance system. The cable and computer industries had representation on ACATS and they did not oppose that recommendation.

Now, however, both industries have done an about-face and argue the standard should not be adopted. They allege that to do so would "freeze" technological development. In fact, all that would be frozen is the start of digital ATV service by America's free, over-the-air broadcasters. Without a standard, stations will not invest the \$8-10 million necessary as they cannot be confident all other stations will use the same system and that all new TV sets will be able to receive their signal in the way it would be transmitted. Therefore, manufacturers will not develop the transmission equipment necessary and consumers will not invest billions of dollars in new receivers when there is no ATV service to receive on their new sets.

Please, adopt the Grand Alliance system as the standard and let us all begin to move forward on an accelerated basis.

Channel Allocations: Providing each broadcaster with an ATV transition channel which comes close to replicating its existing signal and yet does not cause unacceptable interference is a nearly impossible task when using the entire block of spectrum set aside for broadcast television. Attempting to shoehorn all the new channel assignments between channels 7 and 51 will result in smaller ATV coverage areas and increased interference for traditional analog service. This will harm consumers receiving only analog TV while at the same time lessening the demand for new digital TV sets because fewer people will be able to receive the new service. Simply put, it's a lose-lose situation.

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABOVE

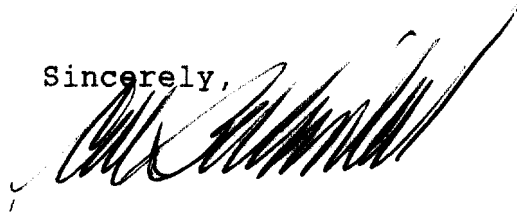
0

(2)

We strongly urge the commission reject this approach and adopt instead an allocation plan utilizing the full TV spectrum band width.

Thank you for your consideration and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Cal Bollwinkel', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Cal Bollwinkel
Executive Producer



87 268

July 26, 1996

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FCC MAIL ROOM

JUL 29 1996

RECEIVED

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The FCC has--or will soon have--before it two extremely important items critical to the deployment of advanced television service: the ATV broadcast transmission standard and channel allocation plan.

ATV Standard: Late last year the commission's Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS) unanimously recommended that the FCC adopt the Grand Alliance system. The cable and computer industries had representation on ACATS, and they did not oppose that recommendation.

Now, however, both industries have done an abrupt about-face and argue the standard should not be adopted. They allege that to do so would "freeze" technological development. In fact, all that would be frozen is the commencement of digital ATV service by America's free, over-the-air broadcasters. Without a standard, stations will use the same system and that all new TV sets will be able to receive their signal in the manner it would be transmitted. Manufacturers will not, therefore, develop the transmission equipment necessary, and consumers will not invest billions of dollars in new receivers when there is no ATV service to receive on their new sets.

Please, adopt the Grand Alliance system as the standard and let us all begin to move forward on an accelerated basis.

Channel Allocations: Providing each broadcaster with an ATV transition channel which comes close to replicating its existing signal and yet does not cause unacceptable interference is a nearly impossible task when using the entire block of spectrum set aside for broadcast television. Attempting to shoehorn virtually all the new channel assignments between channels 7 and 51 will result in substantially smaller ATV coverage areas and substantially increased interference for traditional analog service. This will both harm consumers receiving only analog TV, while simultaneously lessening the demand for new digital TV sets because fewer people will be able to receive the new service. Simply put, it's a lose-lose situation.

....Continued

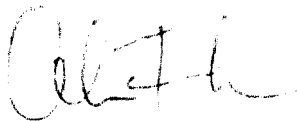
0

July 26, 1996
Page Two

We strongly urge the commission to reject this approach and to adopt instead an allocation plan utilizing the full TV spectrum band width.

Thank you for your consideration, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Frank", written in a cursive style.

ALAN FRANK
General Manager
WPGH FOX 53

Kevin P. O'Brien
Vice President and
General Manager

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

July 23, 1996

FCC MAIL ROOM

JUL 29 1996

RECEIVED

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 "M" Street, NW - Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The FCC has--or will have-- before it two extremely important items critical to the deployment of advanced television service: the ATV broadcast transmission standard and channel allocation plan.

ALTV Standard: Late last year the commission's Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS) unanimously recommended that the FCC adopt the Grand Alliance system. The cable and computer industries had representation on ACATS, and they did not oppose that recommendation.

Now, however, both industries have done an abrupt about-face and argue the standard should not be adopted. They allege that to do so would "freeze" technological development. In fact, all that would be frozen is the commencement of digital ATV service by America's free, over-the-air broadcasters. Without a standard, stations will not invest the \$8-10 million necessary because they cannot be confident all other stations will use the same system and that all new TV sets will be able to receive their signal in the manner it would be transmitted. Manufacturers will not, therefore, develop the transmission equipment necessary, and consumers will not invest billions of dollars in new receivers when there is no ATV service to receive on their new sets.

Please, adopt the Grand Alliance system as the standard and let us all begin to move forward on an accelerated basis.

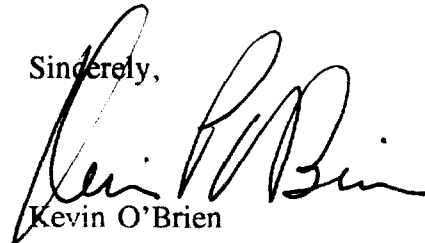
Channel Allocations: Proving each broadcaster with an ATV transition channel which comes close to replicating its existing signal and yet does not cause unacceptable interference is a nearly impossible task when using the entire block of spectrum set aside for broadcast television. Attempting to shoehorn virtually all the new channel assignments between channels 7 and 51 will result in substantially smaller ATV coverage areas and substantially increased interference for traditional analog service. This will both harm consumers receiving only analog TV, while simultaneously lessening the demand for new digital TV sets because fewer people will be able to receive the new service. Simply put, it's a lose-lose situation.

Page Two
July 23, 1996

We strongly urge the commission to reject this approach and to adopt instead an allocation plan utilizing the full TV spectrum band width.

Thank you for your consideration, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin O'Brien", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name "Kevin O'Brien".

Kevin O'Brien

KOB/em